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COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION &
INFRASTRUCTURE

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

December 6, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas
Secretary of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
2703 Martin Luther King Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20593

President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas:

I write to bring your attention to recent fentanyl busts in South Dakota and implore you to take immediate action to secure the southern border and stop the flow of illegal drugs into American communities.

On November 17th, a Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Law Enforcement Officer conducted a traffic stop that resulted in the location and seizure of 30 suspected fentanyl pills. Further, on November 27th, another officer responded to a call that resulted in an additional 20 suspected fentanyl pills seized. Further, on November 26th, a Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Law Enforcement Officer with assistance from a Roberts County Sheriff Deputy conducted a traffic stop that resulted in the seizure of approximately 12.4 pounds of fentanyl pills and 3.6 pounds of fentanyl powder. That amounts to an astounding estimated street value of over \$2.3 million.

I want to commend the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Law Enforcement Agency and the Roberts County Sheriff's Department for their effective collaboration and dedication to the safety of their communities. While fentanyl busts of this magnitude sadly may be more common in some urban areas, this is rare for a South Dakota community – this is likely the largest drug bust in South Dakota's history.

It is clear we have a crisis at our southern border. With increasing frequency, we see reports of U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers intercepting pounds of fentanyl and methamphetamine at various border crossing locations. The increase in these drugs' presence in South Dakota shows the problem at our border is only intensifying.

I ask your administration to immediately take all legal and necessary actions at your disposal to secure the southern border, rectify the dangerous policies this administration has put in motion over the past year, and put an end to this devastating drug trafficking that is wreaking havoc on American families.

Respectfully,

Dusty Johnson
Member of Congress